

Request for Proposals (RFP): Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Water Metering System

I. Introduction The Town of Bryson City is seeking proposals for the procurement, installation, and implementation of a complete Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) water metering system. This procurement is classified as information technology goods and services under North Carolina General Statute § 143-129.8. Qualified vendors with demonstrated experience in AMI systems are invited to submit proposals in accordance with the specifications outlined in this RFP.

II. Submission Details

1. **Proposal Deadline:** Proposals must be received by 2:00 pm local time on Friday, February 21.
2. **Submission Address:** Town of Bryson City, 45 Everett Street, Bryson City, NC 28713
3. **Format Requirements:** Proposals must be submitted in hard copy including all requested documentation, accompanied by an electronic version in PDF format on a USB storage device.

III. Scope of Work The selected vendor will provide and install a complete AMI water metering system, including water meters, data collectors, network infrastructure, and software for data management and billing integration, in accordance with the technical specifications.

IV. Vendor Qualifications Vendors must meet the following qualifications:

1. Minimum of 10 years of experience in manufacturing and implementing water meters and AMI systems.
2. Proven capability to integrate the proposed system with the existing billing software.
3. Compliance with all relevant standards, including AWWA, NSF/ANSI 61, and FCC regulations.
4. Demonstrated history of successful AMI system implementations for municipal water utilities of similar size in the State of North Carolina.

V. Technical Specifications Technical specifications are available on the Town's website, including requirements for meter construction, acoustic leak detection capabilities, RF communications, data logging, software integration, security protocols, warranty provisions, and other requirements.

VI. Proposal Content Requirements Proposals must include:

1. **Executive Summary:** Overview of the vendor's qualifications and understanding of the project.
2. **Technical Approach:** Detailed description of the proposed AMI system, addressing compliance with the technical specifications.
3. **Implementation Plan:** Timeline, milestones, and resource allocation for system deployment.
4. **Cost Proposal:** Detailed breakdown of costs, including equipment, installation, software licensing, training, and ongoing support. Guidance quantities are included in the technical specifications.
5. **References:** At least three references with primary contact information from municipalities in North Carolina where similar systems were successfully implemented.
6. **Deviations:** A list of deviations from the specifications, if any, with explanations and justifications.

VII. Evaluation Criteria Proposals will be evaluated based on the following 100-point scoring system:

1. **Technical Compliance (30 points):** Alignment of the proposed system with technical specifications.
2. **Vendor Experience and References (20 points):** Demonstrated experience and client satisfaction.
3. **Cost Proposal (15 points):** Cost-effectiveness and transparency of pricing.
4. **Implementation Plan (15 points):** Feasibility and clarity of the proposed implementation timeline and process.
5. **Support and Warranty (10 points):** Provisions for training, technical support, and warranty.
6. **Innovation and Value-Added Features (10 points):** Unique features or enhancements beyond the minimum specifications.

VIII. Terms and Conditions

1. The Town of Bryson City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.
2. Proposals must remain valid for 90 days after submission.
3. The selected vendor must negotiate a contract with terms consistent with this RFP and applicable laws.

IX. Questions and Clarifications All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted by email to natebowe@brysoncitync.gov no later than 5:00 pm local time on Tuesday, February 18.